

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 have been examined. Claims 1, 9 and 14 have been amended.
Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Initial matters

Counsel wishes to thank the examiner for the interview of May 20, 2004. An appropriate summary has been provided in an Interview Summary form.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

Claims 1, 2, 9 and 13 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Pullman, and claims 1, 3-6, 8-10 and 12 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Wallis. This rejection is respectfully traversed in part and overcome in part.

The Pullman patent and the Wallis patent describe baby support devices having a base or well region that is configured to rest directly on a support surface. As discussed with the examiner, the pillows of the invention have a well region that is suspended above a support surface. In order to clarify this distinction in the claims, all independent claims have been amended to recite that the "the well region is situated between the upper section and the lower section so as to be suspended above a surface onto which the pillow body rests."

Because such a feature is not found in Pullman or Wallis, claims 1, 2-6, 8-10, 12 and 13 are distinguishable over the cited art. Hence, it is respectfully requested that the section 102 rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallis. As previously described, the Wallis patent fails to describe a suspended well region. Hence, claim 7 which depends from claim 1 is distinguishable over the Wallis patent.

Claim 11 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pullman in view of Clute, or Wallis in view of Clute. Claim 11 depends from claim 9 which is distinguishable over Pullman and Wallis for at least the reasons previously described. Because the Clute patent also fails to teach a suspended well region, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 14-18 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pullman in view of Matthews. Independent claim 14 has been amended to recite a suspended well region as previously described. Since the cited art does not teach this limitation, claims 14-18 are distinguishable and it is requested that the section 103 rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Claims 14-17, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallis in view of Matthews. Independent claim 14 has been amended to recite a suspended well region as previously described. Since the cited art does not teach this limitation, claims 14-17, 19 and 20 are distinguishable and it is requested that the section 103 rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Appl. No. 10/612,267
Amdt. dated May 25, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2004

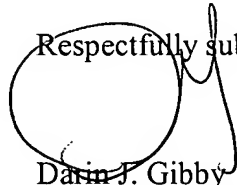
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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